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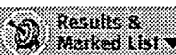
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BLUETOOTH TECHNOLOGY SET TO RE-DEFINE THE PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS MARKET

Phillips Business Information's Communications Standards News; Potomac; Dec 20, 1999;

Start Page: 1

ISSN: 10774696

Abstract:

The Bluetooth technology is a specification covering small form factor, low-cost, wireless communication for networking between PCs, mobile phones and other portable devices. It is claimed that the Bluetooth technology will at re-define the personal communications market by expanding the capabilities of mobile devices and making these devices work better together. According to market research firm Cahners In-Stat Group, there will be over 670 million Bluetooth enabled devices worldwide by 2005.

The Bluetooth Special Interest Group (SIG) - formed in 1998 - is driven by the common goal of revolutionising connectivity for both personal and business mobile devices. It has grown faster than any other group working on wireless communication and now has over 1,200 members. The goal of the Bluetooth SIG is to enhance and promote standards and technology that will 'enable a wireless world'. The Bluetooth SIG claims that the technology will provide an easier way for a variety of mobile computing, communications and other devices to communicate with one another and to make wireless connections to the Internet. They say that the technology has the added advantage that it will make it easier for users of mobile computers, mobile phones and handheld devices to keep their data synchronised through these wireless connections.

Full Text:

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The first manifestations of the Bluetooth technology are evident in many recent product announcements. Typical low cost products include: a wireless internet bridge, an interactive conference system, a mobile phones with a

wireless connected hands-free headset, a portable speaker phone, an automatic synchroniser, and an instant postcard system.

Bluetooth SIG Steps up the Pace by Establishing a Promoter Group

The five founding companies of the Bluetooth Special Interest Group - Ericsson, IBM Corporation, Intel Corporation, Nokia and Toshiba Corporation - announced on December 1 at their Santa Clara meeting that 3Com Corporation, Lucent Technologies, Microsoft Corporation and Motorola Inc. will join them to form the Promoter group of the Bluetooth SIG. The charter of the Promoter group is to lead the efforts of the Bluetooth SIG, by creating a forum for enhancing the Bluetooth specification and providing a vehicle for interoperability testing. The acceptance of the **Bluetooth wireless technology** appears to be unprecedented, with many of the 1,200 companies who have joined the SIG, since its inception less than two years ago, claiming to be 'adopters'. The magnitude and reach of the Bluetooth specification, as well as the emergence of new application opportunities led to the decision to establish the Promoter Group. The impressive list of Promoter Group companies can certainly be claimed to add diversity, expertise, depth of experience and, most important of all, considerable 'clout' to the Bluetooth SIG.

By working together, the nine-company Promoter Group will combine their respective skills to help drive the overall development forward. There is a wealth of experience among the Promoter Group, providing an extensive array of potential solutions for wireless connectivity. There is also shared expertise in such areas as radio and computing technology, software development, and networking, which broadens the perspective and increases the depth of the vision in these areas. In their announcement, the Promoter Group highlights the fact that, although each of the companies involved has leveraged unique and complementary core competencies in the development and promotion of the Bluetooth technology, the specification and, ultimately, the product solutions will be the result of a concerted team effort.

By working together, the Promoter group companies have pledged to combine their respective skills to help drive the overall program forward as Bluetooth enabled products come to market. More information on Bluetooth and the full set of Bluetooth specifications and profiles are available at: <http://www.bluetooth.com>

Microsoft Stop Short of Committing Windows Support for Bluetooth

When questioned, Microsoft said that they see many opportunities for exploiting Bluetooth including the enabling of rich ad-hoc networking, universal plug and play as an Enhanced Service Discovery Protocol, higher quality audio and video, automobile applications and still image usage scenarios.

When asked if Microsoft will incorporate Bluetooth technology into Windows and other products, they gave a politically correct answer pledging commitment to the SIG and the Promoter Group and contribution to advancing Bluetooth technology. They promised to provide a standard solution that allows interoperability between products from multiple hardware and software vendors. They said that they are currently defining the exact level of support and the release schedule for Bluetooth technology in Microsoft platforms and will make that information available to developers and customers as soon as possible. They also said that joining the Bluetooth SIG would not affect the Microsoft commitment to other wireless technologies such as Home RF and the well-established IEEE 802.11.

However, there are rumours that Microsoft is putting a lot of effort into its wireless product scenario and we can expect some key announcements related to both Bluetooth and the work of the Wireless Applications Protocol (WAP) Forum very soon.

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Accessorize the brand-new you

InfoWorld; Framingham; Aug 23, 1999; [Kate McLucas](#);

Volume: 21
Issue: 34
Start Page: S13
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[Paging systems](#)
[Freeware](#)
[Handheld computers](#)
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Classification Codes: 9190: US
5230: Hardware
5240: Software & systems

Geographic Names: US

Abstract:






Items to help you stand out in a crowd in the fast-paced technology world include: 1. 3Com's Palm VII personal digital assistant, 2. Bluetooth wireless technology, 3. Ericsson's R290 6-ounce global cellular phone, 4. the Beepware watch/pager developed by Motorola and Timex, and 5. free Web-based calendaring and scheduling.


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NOW THAT YOU'RE READY to launch "You 2.0," it's time to accessorize. In the fashion world, accessories demonstrate that you're detail-oriented, organized, and aware of trends. In the fast-paced technology world, it's equally important to show that you're up on the latest and greatest. Here's a short list of items to help You 2.0 stand out in a crowd.

Palm VII personal digital assistant (PDA). 3Com's Palm VII - currently limited to the New York metropolitan area, but going national this fall - brings wireless capabilities to the popular Palm product line. You'll be able to check e-mail and receive bursts of information from the Web designed specifically for conducting business on the go, such as up-to-the-minute stock information and technology news. (For a review of the Palm VII, see www.infoworld.com/printlinks. For more about the product line, see www.palm.com.) If you want to boost your Palms functionality, try the GoType lightweight, no-battery keyboard from www.landware.com, which connects to your Palm device to speed data entry.

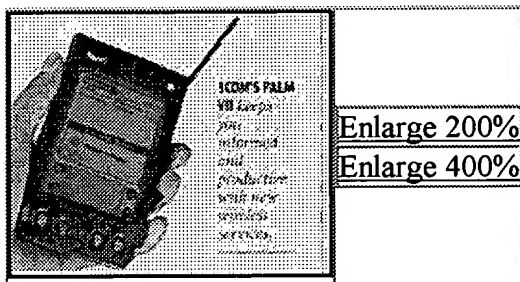
Bluetooth wireless technology. An emerging networking standard, Bluetooth is now supported by more than 700 companies, including heavy hitters , , , , and . It allows portable computing and telecommunications devices to connect and communicate via short-range radio technology. Bluetooth's radio waves can penetrate solid objects, so you can synch your PDA with the laptop in your briefcase, for example. Plus, it provides a wireless connection to your LAN. Expect products that interoperate with the standard to be released in the next year. For more on Bluetooth, see www.bluetooth.com.


Global phone. 's R290 6-ounce global cellular phone, available by early 2000, will keep you connected in 120 countries on five continents via satellite technology. With its conference-call feature, you can hold virtual meetings from almost anywhere in the world. It has a built-in modem for data and fax communication, and you can have both a work and personal telephone number on a single phone, easing expense accounting. See www.ericsson.com for more information.

Beepwear watch/pager. Why wear both a watch and a pager when you can combine them with Beepwear, developed by , and ? The device stores as many as 150 names and phone numbers and has eight different alarms you can set. You can download schedules from your computer to Beepwear, and it receives e-mail and news, sports, and weather updates. And even if you're not paying attention, it does: Beepwear automatically sets itself to the correct time when you cross time zones. See www.beepwear.com for more information.

*** Free Web-based calendaring and scheduling.** If you're a contractor, a consultant, or even a company employee, it's important not to be constrained by network-based calendar and scheduling software. During the past year, Web-based calendar services have made a splash - even letting you schedule meetings with attendees over the Web. Meeting attendees can provide alternative times and check your availability. Check out www.anyday.com, www.timedance.com, or www.when.com.

Although technology can make your life easier and enhance your image, don't let a power outage, an equipment failure, or a lost or stolen laptop render you helpless. Back up your important phone numbers, both on hard copies and electronically. If you're giving an important presentation, don't count on PowerPoint alone. Be prepared to go solo, with just your wits to steer you to success.



 3COM'S PALM VII keeps you informed and productive with new wireless services.

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L Number	Hits	Search Text	DB	Time stamp
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